provide level crossings over tracks;

(b) if so, the criteria fixed in this regard; and

(c) the zone—wise number of level crossings to be constructed during 1991—92

THE MINISTER SOF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). On new lines, level crossings are provided in consultation with the concerned State Government at the time of laying the line as also in subsequent 10 years. Thereafter, the level crossings are provided only if sponsored by the State Government/Local Authority duly consenting to bear the initial as well as recurring expenditure.

(c) Central Railway —4, Northern Railway—6, North Eastern Railway —2.

Microphosphate Project in Hazira

3135. KUMARI DIPIKA CHIKHLIA:
SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN;
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Microphosphate project in Hazira, Gujarat has since been shut down;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to re—open it;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

Spare Parts for Vayudoot Grounded Aircraft

3136. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the aircraft of the Vayudoot grounded due to lack of spare parts;

(b) the steps taken by the Government to procure spare parts for all the grounded aircraft to make them operational; and

(c) if no, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Three HS—748 and two Dornier—228 aircraft of Vayudoot are grounded for want of spare parts, orders for which have been placed on the suppliers abroad.

Apex Body for Higher Education

3137. KUMARI DIPIKA CHIKHIIA:
SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN:
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to form an apex body on higher education at National level; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including its composition and functions likely to be assigned to this body?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 envisages establishment of a National Apex Body for bringing about greater coordination and integration in the planning and development of the higher education system, including research. Accordingly it was proposed to establish a National Council of Higher Education by a Govt. resolution, but the Planning Commission and Chairman, UGC expressed reservations about certain aspects of the proposal.

The Ramamurti Committee, which reviewed the National Policy on Education 1986, while recognising the need for greater coordination in higher education was of the view that the creation of a two—tier coordination mechanism consisting of a Committee of Ministers and a Committee of Secretaries would suffice. As such it has not been possible to agree on a mechanism for establishment of a National apex body for higher education.

[*Translation*]

UGC Grant to Kumaun University

3138. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grant provided to Kumaun University by the University Grants Commission on the recommendation of the Sports Authority of India for providing sports facilities during 1990—91;

(b) the number of students of this university offered scholarships offered scholarships from this Grant during 1990—91; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) According to the information furnished by UGC, the Commission has not received any proposal for development of sports facilities in the University either from the Kumaun University or through the Sports Authority of India.

(b) and (c). UGC provides assistance to Universities for implementation of the Scheme of Junior Research Fellowships. The fellowships are awarded to those candidates who have qualified in the National Test conducted by UGC/CSIR for the purpose. Each University is allotted a fixed quota of fellowships. Besides, supernumerary fellowships are also provided to the Universities for adjusting surplus candidates who have qualified in the national test for that year.

According to the information furnished by UGC, against a quota of 25 positions allotted to Kumaun University by the Commission, the University awarded 12 Junior Research Fellowships for the year 1989—90. Information regarding Fellows working in the University in 1990-91 has not yet been received by UGC from the University. However, to avoid hardship to the Fellows, the Commission has sanctioned an 'on account' grant of Rs. 9.00 lakhs for the year 1990—91.

[*English*]

Sports Talent In Rural Children

3139. SHRI JEEWAN SHARMA:
SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAOVADDE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of rural games organised at national level during the last three years;